(e) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of State Government concerned for the planning, development, funding, execution and management of all type of water resources projects to harness the water resources within the States. To overcome the scarcity situation, Government of India is promoting the strategies for optimization of water use efficiency, water conservation, conjunctive use of surface and ground water, artificial recharge of ground water etc. Keeping in view the long term planning, the Ministry of Water Resources and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development in the country which envisages inter-linkages between various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilization of water in the country. The interlinking of rivers will improve the storage position of en-route reservoirs.

Introduction of water audit

304. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce 'Water Audit' in industries, hotels and housing societies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Water being a State subject, the planning, designing, implementation and Operation & Maintenance and related measures including water auditing is to be carried out by concerned State Governments/Urban Local Bodies.

Construction of dams on inter-State rivers

305. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have the authority to construct dam, barrier etc. afresh across inter-State rivers unilaterally;

(b) whether any proposal to construct such dam has been sent to the Centre by any State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) in what manner Government would prevent such unlawful construction of dams by any State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) Irrigation is a State subject and as per present policy, irrigation projects are planned, investigated, formulated, implemented and funded by the State Government out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. As per the guidelines of Planning Commission, all major and multi-purpose and medium irrigation project and flood control including drainage projects which have inter-state ramifications, are techno-economically appraised in Central Water Commission (CWC) and approved by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation Flood Control and Multi-purpose projects in the Ministry of Water Resources before the investment clearance to such projects/schemes is accorded by the Planning Commission. As per criteria for techno-economic appraisal followed in CWC, projects situated in an inter-state river basin where no tribunal decision or valid inter-state agreement is available or where no tribunal has been constituted, it is considered desirable to get concurrence of other co-basin State particularly when substantial adverse impact on other co-basin State is anticipated.

(b) and (c) Upto 15th February, 2006, 190 new major and medium irrigation projects from 21 States have been received in CWC for techno-economic appraisal.

(d) In such cases, Central Government persuade the concerned States through dialogue, discussion and correspondence.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following